

**661 Hardison Drive
Arapahoe, NC 28510-9660**

January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

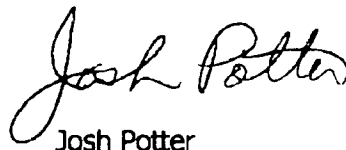
My name is Josh Potter. I live in Arapahoe, NC. I am pleased to hear that a settlement has been reached between Microsoft, the Justice Department, and some of the other parties involved with the lawsuit. I am writing to express my support for the settlement.

I was opposed to the Microsoft lawsuit from the beginning. The computer industry would still be in the dark ages without Bill Gates and Microsoft. However, as I understand the settlement, it allows for greater competition without seriously damaging Microsoft as a competitive entity. Now, under the settlement Microsoft has to reveal its intellectual property in its Windows internal interfaces and server interoperability protocols.

Under the circumstances, and considering other proposals to settle this matter, the settlement you have reached are in the best interest of the public, the tech industry, as well as, the economy.

In closing, I support the proposed settlement. I feel it will benefit American industry and consumers alike. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Potter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Josh Potter